

## BOOK REVIEWS

**CHRONIC BRONCHITIS.** An NAPT Symposium. Report of a meeting held in London, December 12, 1956. 44 pp. Illust. National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, London, 1957. \$1.50.

This is a sound little booklet on chronic bronchitis. The essentials of present-day knowledge are presented concisely in a matter of 44 pages.

Proper emphasis is placed on the importance of excess goblet cells and bronchiole dilatation, and the role that viruses may be playing in the etiology of the disease. Diagnosis deals with the symptom complex of cough and sputum, and the breathlessness due to any accompanying emphysema; simple pulmonary ventilation tests are described that can be routine in any office. Whilst the limitations of radiology are stressed, several useful pointers to aid diagnosis are given. The sections on treatment take into account active clinical measures both medical and surgical, as well as geriatric and social aspects of management.

This booklet can be read with profit by all members of the medical profession.

**THE DOCTOR AS A WITNESS.** John Evarts Tracy, University of Michigan. 221 pp. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London, 1957. \$4.25.

In the preface it is said "this short volume was not written as a text for either medical school or law school use. It is purely informational. . . ." The book is informative and helpful about material and procedures which are common both to the United States and Canada, but about a number of other things where laws differ and procedures are dissimilar, Canadian readers may actually be misled.

The nature of a coroner's inquest, the fact that it is "an investigation rather than a trial"; "the various capacities in which the doctor may be called upon to testify", as a citizen, about facts having nothing to do with his profession, as a doctor about facts having to do with his professional work or about opinions derived from his professional knowledge—the sections on these things will be helpful to a doctor and may be valuable.

In many other fields the applicable laws apparently are so different in the United States that the book would be misleading here. In a number of States, for example, some things told a doctor by a patient may be privileged; in Canada there is no privilege for doctor or patient. Much of the discussion about committal of the insane is inapplicable in Canada. A chapter is devoted to the giving of testimony in Workmen's Compensation cases, a procedure that is rare in Canada. The introduction to the chapter on "Testimony in Malpractice Cases" describes conditions that surely must be unusual in this country. That "unprincipled patients and crooked lawyers" conspire against doctors by bringing actions "on unfounded charges of negligence" is not the feeling here. Nor do ". . . many, maybe most, doctors" feel that they should unite against such conspiracies to the extent that they would give false testimony; ". . . that any doctor who testifies for the plaintiff in such an action is a traitor to his profession" does not describe Canadian medical reaction. The remainder of the chapter, advice about doctors' obligations to their patients, manner of giving advice in court, need for consent before treatment, and some other topics, is worth reading. The emphasis that is placed on the value of good records is justified. Many of the comments on what makes a doctor a good witness will repay study.

The book is interesting and it is informative. Canadians who read it, however, need to have some knowledge of Canadian legal procedure if they are not to be misled by advice that is applicable in the United States and not here.

**TUMEURS HUMAINES (Human Tumours).** P. Masson, Professor at the University of Montreal. 1214 pp. Illust. 2nd ed. Librairie Maloine, Paris, 1956. 9400 Fr. fr.

La première édition du livre de Masson, parue en 1923, avait eu un succès considérable dans le monde des anatomo-pathologistes et avait placé son auteur au premier plan des histo-pathologistes. Il s'agissait, en effet, d'un livre consacré à l'étude des tumeurs dans le cadre de la biologie générale, à la description histologique minutieuse de leurs diverses manifestations, basée sur l'observation personnelle et une qualité de technique inconnue jusque là. Il ne contenait que de rares indications bibliographiques et les citations étrangères n'étaient là, souvent que pour rendre aux auteurs oubliés ou méconnus le mérite qui leur revient. Cette première édition, ainsi que sa traduction espagnole, fut épuisée en quelques années.

Après un tel succès, on s'étonne que de multiples autres éditions n'aient pas paru depuis. Cédant aux instances répétées de ses nombreux élèves et amis, le professeur Masson, à un âge où beaucoup d'autres se reposent depuis longtemps sur leurs lauriers, a entrepris la rédaction presque entièrement nouvelle d'une dernière édition, de plus de 1200 pages, accompagnée de 450 figures dans le texte et de 12 planches en couleurs.

C'est une œuvre considérable, où l'auteur ne décrit, comme il le dit lui-même dans la préface, que ce qu'il connaît.

L'espace alloué à cette note ne permet pas de faire une revue complète de cette nouvelle édition. Le livre demeure une œuvre originale et personnelle où l'auteur décrit surtout les tumeurs qu'il a particulièrement étudiées.

Ainsi les chapitres sur les tumeurs des gonades et du système nerveux prennent une large place parce que l'auteur a apporté à la connaissance de ces tumeurs une part personnelle importante. Pour tous ceux que l'histopathologie des tumeurs intéresse, le livre de Masson est indispensable. Par son contenu et sa présentation, il fait honneur à la science et à l'édition française. Il faut souhaiter qu'il obtienne une plus large diffusion par une traduction anglaise.

**APPLICATION OF BASIC SCIENCE TECHNIQUES TO PSYCHIATRIC RESEARCH.** Psychiatric Research Reports 6. Edited by Jacques S. Gottlieb and others. 211 pp. Illust. American Psychiatric Association, Washington, D.C., 1956. \$2.00.

This report deals with the application of basic science techniques in psychiatric research. The immense amount of material presented in this volume is very difficult to summarize. This is evident in the titles of six symposia and two addresses which form the report. The first and second symposia deal with the neurophysiological and neuropharmacological techniques. These studies reveal the importance of on-the-spot investigation of stimulation or destruction of neuronal sets and electrical recording in connection with drug administration. In the latter connection one notes the discrepancy between marked psychological changes brought about by drugs such as chlorpromazine and LSD 25, and the paucity of concomitant electrical changes in the brain. In the third symposium the problems of neuroendocrine activity and blocking are briefly reported. Of interest is the blocking effect of reserpine and chlorpromazine on the release of gonadotrophins. The 4th and 5th symposia deal with biochemical techniques for the study of brain metabolism, microchemistry, histochemistry and electronmicroscopy.

A breathing spell from biochemical indulgence is provided by Kubie's address on psychoanalysis as a research tool. In this interesting paper the author brings out that in all branches of science the scientist is subjected to his unconscious way of behaving, which influences deeply his scientific activity. He projects himself with this activity and scientific research then becomes like a

(Continued on page 1004)

projective test for the scientist. The sixth symposium deals with psychological techniques and the problems of perception and memory. Of interest is the report on perceptual changes in split brain animals and the problems of perceptual defence.

The report aptly closes with two discussions, one on the sociological concepts in psychiatry and the other on the philosophical point of view. Kaplan, professor of philosophy at the University of California, closes the broken gestalts of physiological test-tubings in a brilliant address on the philosophy of the mind wherein he tries to clarify such notions as correlative psychophysiological studies, description and explanation, meaning and interpretation.

**THE CELLULAR BASIS OF WOUND REPAIR.** Martin Allgöwer, Department of Surgery, University of Basle, Switzerland. 125 pp. Illust. Charles C Thomas, Springfield, Ill.; The Ryerson Press, Toronto. 1956. \$7.25.

The introduction to this monograph summarizes the arguments that have been put forward regarding the source of fibroblasts in healing wounds. The author then enters the fray on the side of Maximow, who long ago asserted that their chief source was the blood.

Dr. Allgöwer points out that after injury the increased number of perivascular cells are derived from the blood and are the chief source of mitoses in contrast to the sluggish division of the tissue fibroblasts. The sudden great increase in the number of fibroblasts which occurs about the ninth day is therefore more likely to be due to transformation of the hæmic cells. He furthermore found that leukopenia induced by radiation caused marked diminution in the number of fibroblasts, even though the wound was shielded from radiation. He discusses the behaviour of hæmic cells in culture and recounts his attempts to study isolated perfused ears, attempts which were frustrated by oedema. In all his animal experiments he uses wounds made in a rabbit's ear.

He does not overstate his case and the book will be of chief interest to the experimental histopathologist, to whom, by the way, most of the interpretative difficulties inherent in this type of work will be familiar.

The publishers have produced a very attractive monograph with a wealth of clear black-and-white photographs, but have done no service to the author by the blurb on the dust cover, apparently written by someone who had not read the book.

**ORAL HISTOLOGY AND EMBRYOLOGY.** Balint J. Orban, Loyola University School of Dentistry, Chicago, Ill. 379 pp. Illust. 4th ed. The C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis, Mo., 1957. \$9.00.

The 1957 version has not been materially changed from the earlier one. Alterations in text are minor, and the illustrations are virtually the same, with the inclusion of some electron photomicrographs to illustrate some of the finer structure of tooth tissues.

The editor has stated in the preface than many of the more recent histochemical and electron microscope observations of dental tissues have not been included, on the basis that interpretation of these observations is still controversial. This reviewer feels that the inclusion of many of the more recent and confirmed observations in the field of histochemistry and electron microscopy would do much to stimulate interest in the text. In addition, an intelligent discussion of the difficulties of interpreting some of the observations and, where possible, an explanation of the conflict would also be valuable both in providing the student reader with information and in stimulating interest in the field of dental research.

The fourth edition of the text is a well-written, well-illustrated text in oral histology, which will remain a useful text in this subject for students of dentistry.

**DIE CHIRURGIE DES HERZENS UND DER GROSSEN GEFÄSSE** (Surgery of the Heart and Large Vessels). E. K. Frey, Director of the Surgical Clinic, and G. Kuetgens, Assistant, Surgical Clinic, University of Munchen. 444 pp. Illust. Ferdinand Enke Company, Stuttgart, 1956.

The authors dedicate this book to their teacher, the late Ernst Ferdinand Sauerbruch. He was also the teacher of many others who came from all parts of the world to be inspired by his pioneering spirit as a thoracic surgeon and to learn his methods. A good number of these "many" will find their names in the bibliography. The seeds have grown into good fruit. Cardiac surgery was beginning to grow when these authors published the first edition of this book in 1939. The great progress that developed in the next 17 years is clearly reflected in this edition. As the subtitle indicates, the description and discussion of surgical methods and techniques are preceded by full treatment of anatomy, physiology, embryology, pathology, pathological physiology, clinical symptoms and signs and differential diagnosis. This clearly indicates that the surgeon who practises this type of surgery must be as well informed as the internist-cardiologist. Yet it is an eminently practical treatise; little or no space is devoted to subjects that were not yet within the scope of effective surgical therapy when the book was being written. Very little attention is paid to tumours of the heart. The clinical resemblance between some cases of myxoma of the left auricle and mitral stenosis and the possibility of surgical removal of such myxomata are not mentioned. On the other hand, some subjects which time has pushed into the background still find great prominence in this book, e.g. the Trendelenburg operation for pulmonary embolus and thyroidectomy for coronary artery disease pain. The latter operation has been displaced by medical therapy. The excellent chapter on cardiac resuscitation could be improved if the authors would describe briefly their own technique in dealing with cardiac standstill and ventricular fibrillation.

A few minor errors were noted: The *w* should be a *v* in the name of Dr. S. A. Levine. The first case of mitral stenosis treated surgically by Cutler, Levine and Beck did survive the operation for some years; the remaining four did die within six days after operation; the authors do not mention the first case. The index could be more ample. The illustrations, the format of the book and the style of writing are excellent. It is several years since this reviewer has read an entire German medical book and he found this exercise quite pleasant and profitable.

**GESTATION.** Transactions of the Third Conference, March 6-8, 1956. Ed. by Claude A. Villee, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. 253 pp. Illust. The Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation, New York, 1957. \$4.75.

The transactions of the third Macy conference on gestation maintains the high degree of excellence exhibited in former publications.

The present conference is concerned with fetal and maternal hormones in relation to pregnancy and fetal growth. The contributors to the conference are all outstanding authorities in their own field, and the meeting of such men for exchange of current experience and thoughts makes this a unique report.

It is not possible to single out individual outstanding contributors from such an excellent current report. However, those subjects which interested the reviewer most were the relationship of stress to ovulation cycles, the production of steroids by the perfused placenta, the relationship of oestradiol to certain enzyme systems of the placenta, and the remarkable report of Jost and Wells concerning experiments on fetal endocrines with the fetus *in utero*. Of more immediate interest is the report by Eleanor Venning on aldosterone excretion during pregnancy and toxæmia.

This is a volume which will be sought after by all those interested in the physiology of reproduction and should be of interest to the endocrinologist and the obstetrician.

(Continued on advertising page 50)

## BOOK REVIEWS

(Continued from page 1004)

**ROUTINE LABORATORY METHODS OF THE CANADIAN RED CROSS BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE.**  
60 pp. Illust. 2nd ed. Canadian Red Cross Society, Toronto, 1957.

In 1948 this booklet appeared in its first edition; a revised version is now available, and gives detailed guidance on the methods used in the laboratories of the Canadian Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service. After a general account of clinic and laboratory procedure, the methods employed in blood banking are discussed. The question of compatibility and incompatibility is dealt with in de-

tail, together with a discussion of transfusion reactions. There is a minimum of theory and a maximum of practical advice. Titration and testing methods are described, together with the preservation of cells at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$ ., preparation of plasma pools and concentrated cell suspensions, and fresh frozen plasma. In the section headed "Suggestions for the Operation of the Hospital Blood Bank", the first piece of advice given is that the director of the hospital offer a short refresher course in the depot to the hospital blood bank technician. Forms and records for blood banking and minimum requirements for blood grouping and anti-Rh typing sera are outlined.

The little book is not designed to be a substitute for formal training by a

skilled technician, or for constant reference to standard textbooks, a selection from which is given. It will certainly however find its way into the hands of most technicians in Canada concerned with the use of blood.

**SICK CHILDREN.** Donald Paterson, formerly Clinical Professor of Paediatrics, University of British Columbia; revised by Reginald Lightwood, Physician to the Hospital for Sick Children, London, England. 590 pp. Illust. 7th ed. J. B. Lippincott Company, Montreal, 1956. \$8.75.

This small textbook might better have been entitled "An Introduction to Paediatrics". Its title, taken at face value, could easily mislead the unwitting purchaser into believing that he had here a diagnostic and therapeutic guide with which to bring his paediatric library up to date.

The field of paediatrics is covered superficially and many important topics such as erythroblastosis foetalis due to ABO-incompatibility and a detailed list of forbidden foods for coeliac children, many of which might be assumed safe by the unwary, are omitted.

As a textbook for medical students about to start their undergraduate training in this specialty, it could serve as a useful and readable foundation on which to base further reading.

**ALLERGIE (Allergy).** Edited by K. Hansen, Lübeck. 1212 pp. Illust. 3rd ed. Georg Thieme Company, Stuttgart; Intercontinental Medical Book Corp., New York, 1957. \$44.50.

This huge volume of over 1100 pages is the third edition of a standard German work. The present edition has contributions from a large number of medical schools in Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Holland. It contains an enormous quantity of information on all aspects of allergy, beginning with definitions of terms used in this specialty and continuing with an account by Roessle of the history of research in allergy. Further chapters discuss the serology, pathology and pharmacology of the allergic disorders. The hereditary and familial aspects and constitutional factors in allergy are set out in detail and there is an interesting chapter on the types of exposure which may lead to allergy. The editor, Hansen, contributes a detailed account of the clinical diagnosis of allergy by testing, and other contributors deal with separate aspects of the skin reaction. After a general account of the treatment of allergic disorders, by drugs, desensitization and other methods, the various disorders themselves are taken in turn. For the general clinician there is a very significant chapter on drug allergy, with detailed descriptions of reactions to common drugs. Every disorder in the body with any remote association with allergy finds a mention in this monograph. There is a special and rather important chapter on the significance of allergy in paediatric disease. The book ends with a chapter on allergic disorders in animals. The editor explains that the accompanying bibliography is not exhaustive, but contains selected references. The book is beautifully illustrated both with black and white and with coloured photographs, and book production is of the usual high standard.

# It Has What it Takes For CHEMICAL DISINFECTION OF SHARP SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS

You can rely on

## B-P FORMALDEHYDE GERMICIDE to...

contains HEXACHLOROPHENE (G-11\*)

**KILL** vegetative pathogens and spore formers within 5 minutes.\*

**KILL** the spores themselves within 3 hours.\*

**KILL** tubercle bacilli within 5 minutes.\*

\*Trademark of Sindar Corp.

**SUGGESTION! B-P CONTAINERS**  
are all especially designed  
for convenience in con-  
junction with the use of  
B-P GERMICIDE.

Used as directed, it will not injure keen cutting edges, points of hypodermic and suture needles, scissors and other 'sharps' ... nor rust, corrode or otherwise damage metallic instruments.

IT'S THE ECONOMICAL ANSWER towards keeping annual costs for solutions and instrument replacement and repairs at a minimum. May be used repeatedly if kept undiluted and free of foreign matter.

\*Comparative chart sent on request

Ask your dealer

**PARKER, WHITE & HEYL, INC.**  
Danbury, Connecticut, U.S.A.